

Spectrum



Photos by Charmain Z. Brackett

Fireworks light up the sky over Barton Field during Fort Gordon's observation of the 2008 Independence Day. The installation held its observance on July 3 to allow service members and their Families to participate in community events scheduled around the Central Savannah River Area on July 4.



Fort Gordon celebrates Independence Day

Charmain Z. Brackett
Correspondent

Independence Day 2007
Cheryl Long watched Fort

Gordon's fireworks from her
Grovettown home.

"The trees were in the
way. We could only see the
tops," said Long, who

brought her four year-old
daughter, Kylie, to the event
this year on July 3.

For Kylie, it was her first-
ever live fireworks show, and

she was excited. She danced
around near Barton Field as
she waited for the event to
start.

The Independence Day cel-
ebration featured the fire-
works, but there were other
events during the day such as
the BOSS Bike Show, carni-
val rides and music by the
Signal Corps Band.

A highlight of the Signal

Corps Band concert was the
1812 Overture with canons.

Attending the Fort Gordon
celebration has been an annual
happening for Staff Sgt.
Ramiro Carrasco and Sgt. 1st
Class Melanie Carrasco and
their sons, Joshua, 9, and Jo-
seph, 4, for the past three
years.

"It was great last year,"
said Staff Sgt. Ramiro

Carrasco of the 297th Mili-
tary Intelligence Battalion.

prior to the fireworks start
"We went to the ones
downtown and they were
ok."

One thing the Carrascos
like about Fort Gordon's
event is the flow of traf-
fic.

"Traffic downtown is
horrendous," he said.



Photos by Bartley Harper

Crowd gathers on
the grassy field in
lawn chairs and
on blankets on
Fort Gordon's
Barton Field
waiting for the
annual
Independence
Day fireworks to
begin. Youngsters
play with a beach
ball to while
away the time
until the
pyrotechnics
begin.



Fireworks display suffers malfunction

"We had plans for a much better show...we need to let everyone know about the lackluster fireworks display that was caused by an electronic firing board failure resulting in the fireworks having to be set off by hand. This is the same company we have used for the past few years and they have provided very, very great shows. This year's fireworks display would have been equal to or greater than last year's show but for the equipment failure."

James Green

Director of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation